



State of New Jersey
DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY AND VETERANS AFFAIRS
NEW JERSEY VETERANS MEMORIAL HOME AT MENLO PARK
132 EVERGREEN ROAD
EDISON, NEW JERSEY 08818-3013

PHILIP D. MURPHY
Governor
Commander-in-Chief

SHEILA OLIVER
Lieutenant Governor

☆
LISA J. HOU, D.O.
Brigadier General
The Adjutant General

15 June 2023

Dear Residents, Staff Members, Families and POAs,

The following is an update regarding abatement progress and prevention efforts at the New Jersey Veterans Memorial Home at Menlo Park.

Active Environmental Technologies, Inc, began their abatement work this week, focusing on a group of rooms in the Liberty Wing. Further, air samples were collected at the end of last week in the interiors of 30 rooms, including the 28 resident rooms which have been vacated. NJ DMAVA is awaiting the results. When received, the results will help inform appropriate abatement measures, rather than provide instructive health data. The Centers for Disease Control does not recommend routine air sampling for mold because mold concentrations in the air are not predictive of health risks or actual exposures. The Menlo Park clinical team will continue to screen every resident for signs of any respiratory illness.

Additionally, NJ DMAVA is taking proactive steps to prevent mold, including improving our ability to perform routine inspections. Our facilities team is cutting a 6x6 inch hole in the interior drywall of each room with a toilet and replacing that square of drywall with a removable cap to allow us to perform inspections of the drywall without damaging the walls. This cap can be taken off by maintenance crews to better inspect the inside of the walls in the future. We are taking this step at each of our homes.

Please see more from the federal Centers for Disease Control (CDC):

<https://www.cdc.gov/niosh/topics/indoorenv/moldtesting.html#:~:text=Appropriate%20remediation%20includes%3A%20Drying%20wetted%20materials%20within%2048,with%20proper%20containment%20when%20identifying%20mold%20on%20materials>

Please also see the following New Jersey Department of Health resource:

https://www.nj.gov/health/ceohs/documents/mold/mold_guidelines.pdf

We appreciate and request the insights of all our staff, residents, family members, those designated by power of attorney, and visitors, too. Please contact lisa.kranis@dmava.nj.gov to share additional concerns.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Lisa Kranis', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Lisa Kranis, LNHA, MPA, CDP
Chief Executive Officer

“Serving Those Who Served”